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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:

Administrative Action

ROBERT DEYOUNG License No. 37FI00118800 CONSENT ORDER OF VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF LICENSURE

TO PRACTICE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened before the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Board"), upon review of a Consent Order filed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, State Board of Psychology on June 16, 2005. The Pennsylvania Consent Order stated that respondent had voluntarily surrendered his license to practice psychology in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Consent Order alleged that respondent engaged in a sexual relationship with a female client two (2) months after ending therapeutic marriage counseling with the client and her husband. The Consent Order further alleged that respondent continued to provide individual therapy to the husband while respondent was engaged in a sexual relationship with the female client. Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Consent Order, respondent is precluded from engaging in

the practice of psychology in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and from representing himself as a psychologist in Pennsylvania. Respondent is presently licensed in the State of New Jersey as a Marriage and Family Therapist and a Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor. He has also applied for a license to be a Professional Counselor.

Respondent appeared pro se before a joint committee of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners and the New Jersey Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee on February 9, 2006. Presently, he is practicing in Pennsylvania as a counselor/psychotherapist and performs biofeedback. Respondent testified that in Pennsylvania, he is permitted to continue to practice as a counselor/psychotherapist provided that he does not designate himself as a licensed psychologist and that he is qualified to perform the counseling services that he is providing. Respondent further testified that although he did not admit in the Pennsylvania Consent Order that he engaged in a sexual relationship with his former client, he had in fact engaged in a sexual relationship with the female client whom he had terminated from a therapeutic relationship two (2) months prior to commencing the sexual relationship. Additionally, respondent testified that he provided joint marriage and family therapy counseling services to the female client and her husband. Respondent testified that he continued to provide individual therapy to the husband after he ceased treating her and while respondent was engaged in a sexual relationship with the female client. Respondent further testified that he acted inappropriately with that client but that he has not engage in any other sexual relationship with clients. Further respondent advised the joint committee that at the time of his misconduct, he was undergoing a very difficult divorce.

committee found his testimony sincere and remorseful, but that his conduct was misguided and unethical.

Respondent further admitted that he did not notify the Board of the Consent Agreement and Order entered against him by the Pennsylvania Board of Psychology in violation of the Board's regulation to report sister state actions.

The Board has reviewed respondent's experience in the field of marriage and family therapy, the documents that he presented and his testimony. The Board has also considered respondent's acknowledgment of his errors, as well as his remorse relating to his inappropriate and unethical conduct. The Board finding that the following disposition of this matter is adequately protective of the public, resolving this matter only on behalf of the Board, and other good cause appearing;

IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS 14 DAY OF Some, 2006 ORDERED AND AGREED:

- 1. Respondent's license to practice marriage and family therapy in the State of New Jersey is hereby voluntarily surrendered to be deemed a suspension with prejudice, precluding Respondent from applying for reinstatement of his license in this State at any time in the future. Respondent shall immediately return his wall certificates and current license to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, Post Office Box 45017, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.
- 2. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from advertising, offering to engage in or engaging in the practice of marriage and family therapy in the State of New Jersey.

Respondent shall pay the costs of the State's investigation in the amount of seven hundred twenty-four dollars and fifty cents (\$724.50) due and payable no later than thirty (30) days following the entry date of this Order. Payment shall be submitted to the Board by certified check or money order made payable to the State of The payment shall be sent to Ms. Elaine DeMars, New Jersey. Executive Director, New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, Post Office Box 45007, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

> GERSEY STATE BOARD OF NEW THE FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS MARRIAGE AND

By:

James Verser, LMFT Board Chair

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the New Jersey State Board of Marylage and Family Examiners to enter this Order.

Robert DeYoung

6/1/06 Date

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